

Department of Public Utilities

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FRESNO METROPOLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

July 5, 2012

Bob Van Wyk General Manager-Secretary Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District 5469 E. Olive Ave. Fresno CA 93727

Letter of Support - Application for Local Groundwater Assistance Program "Urban Basin Recharge Improvement and Soil Sampling Project"

Dear Mr. Van Wyk:

The City of Fresno, Department of Public Utilities (DPU) provides water, wastewater, sewer maintenance, solid waste and sanitation to over 500,000 customers, covering an area of 110 square miles. As you know, the City of Fresno actively participates in regional efforts to mitigate groundwater overdraft through its own facilities and those of your District.

In addition to its partnership with the District, the City works with the Fresno Irrigation District to deliver portions of our Class 1 surface water entitlements to several Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District's stormwater management basins to increase the overall restoration of the local groundwater aquifer. The result of this interagency coordination is an annual average of more than 50,000 acrefeet of surface water recharged to the community's groundwater table.

As a fellow participant in the 2006 Fresno-Area Regional Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP), the City of Fresno seeks to maximize the available water supply, including conjunctive use of surface and groundwater. Commitment to this goal is shown in the ongoing interagency coordination on groundwater recharge. The City of Fresno further participates in regional water management planning through its leadership in the Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority, along with the District and 16 other water agencies and municipalities, some of whom are also GWMP members.

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The City supports Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District's proposed plan to improve groundwater recharge at FMFCD basins and determine the soil profiles, potential infiltration rates, and feasibility to enhance such rates in other basins in the Fresno/Clovis area through funding from the State Department of Water Resources – Local Groundwater Assistance Program. Proactive projects such as this improve groundwater recharge efforts and study soil conditions of the District's basins to increase the efficiency of groundwater recharge.

Sincerely

Patrick N. Wiemiller

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Director